



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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NEWS RELEASE

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National Ground Water Awareness Week March 12 - 18

CARSON CITY — In recognition of National Ground Water Awareness Week, March 12-18, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) is reminding Nevadans of the importance our ground water resources.

“95 percent of Nevadans rely on ground water for their drinking water,” said Russ Land, chief of NDEP’s Groundwater Protection Branch. “That, coupled with the fact that we live in an arid climate, makes protection and conservation of this vital resource a top priority.”

He said Nevadans can help protect and conserve ground water by doing the following:

- Avoid overuse of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers around your home, because excesses can make their way into, and contaminate, the ground water.
- If you’re on a private well, have your well water tested once a year to ensure that it remains free of contaminants.
- If you’re on a septic tank, maintain your system so it works properly and doesn’t contaminate ground water or your well.
- Dispose of chemicals properly.
- Take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Take shorter showers.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth.

(more)

National Ground Water Awareness Week
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- Run full loads of dishes and laundry.
- Fix leaky faucets and running toilets.
- Water indoor plants only when necessary, and follow local outdoor watering guidelines.

For more information on groundwater protection, visit NDEP's website at <http://www.ndep.nv.gov/bwpc/bwpc01.htm> , or the National Ground Water Association's website <http://www.ngwa.org/> , or the Ground Water Protection Council's website at <http://www.gwpc.org/>

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